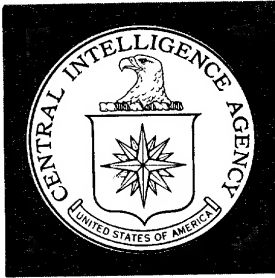


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CIA/SAVA / WVIIND 710626



WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

Week Ending 26 June 1971

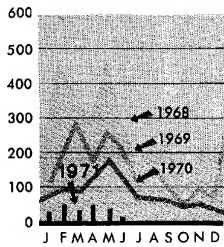
NSA Declassification/Release instructions on File.

For the President Only

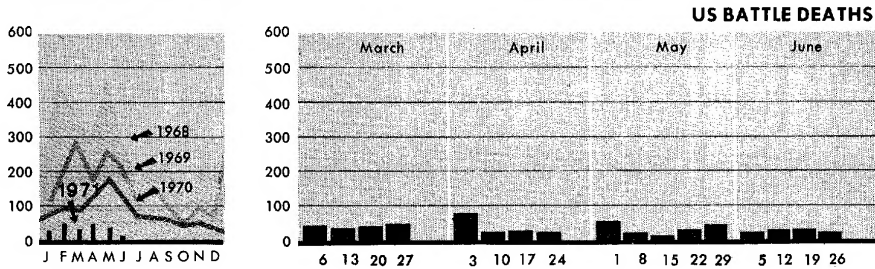
~~Top Secret~~

SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

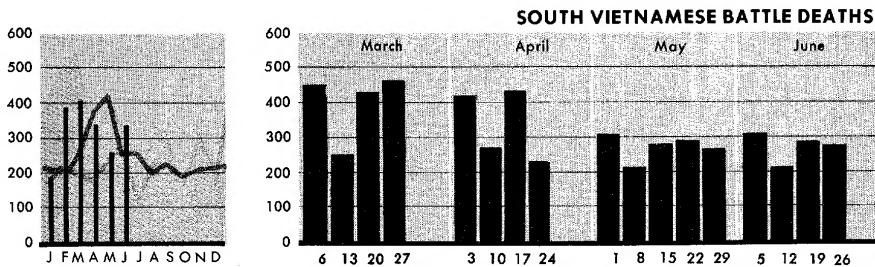
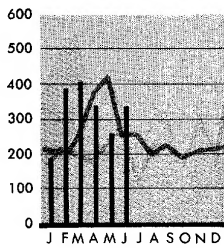
1968-1971
Weekly average for each month



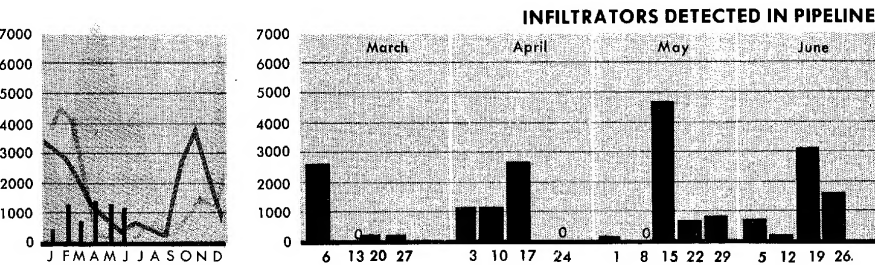
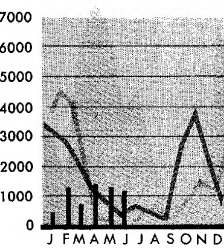
MARCH 1971 - JUNE 1971
Weekly data as reported



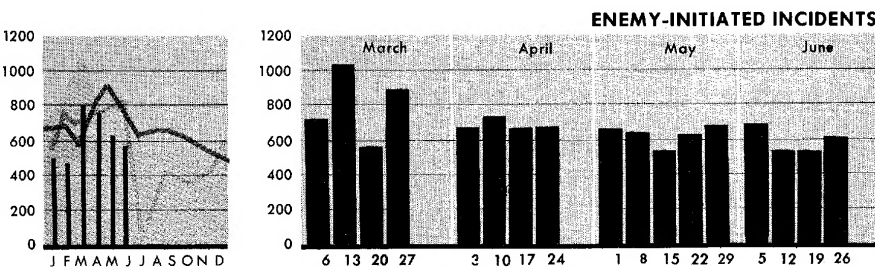
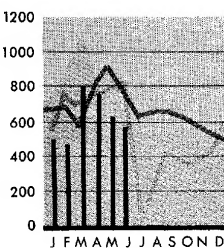
dropped to 21 from last week's 25.



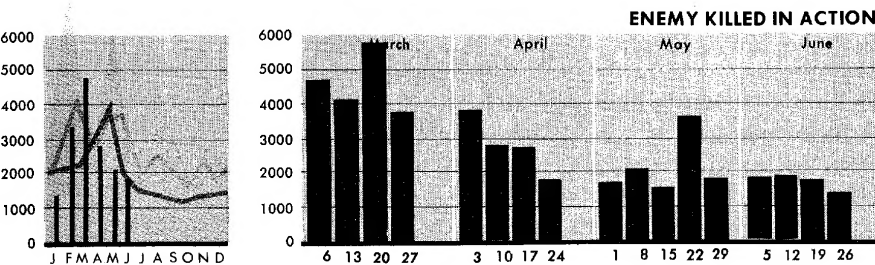
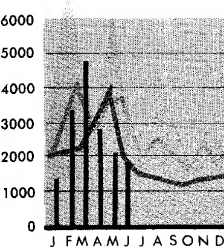
decreased to 286 from last week's 292. The official toll will change as late reports are received and will be lower than the figures released to press by the GVN.



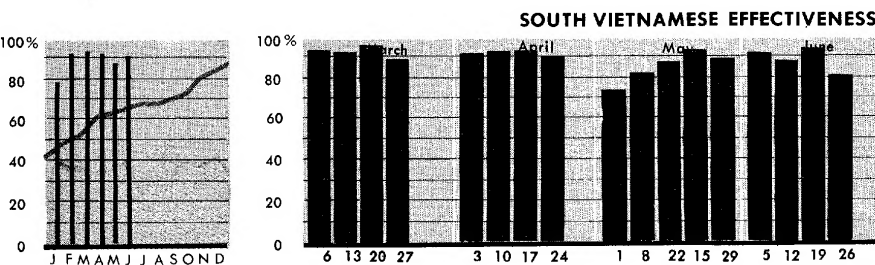
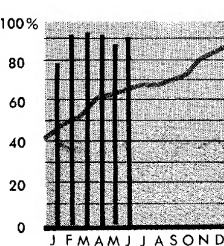
stand at four regular and three special purpose groups totaling 1770 personnel. The estimate of infiltrators destined for South Vietnam/Cambodia since 1 October 1970 now stands at some 72,600 - 74,600.



increased sharply to 602 from the 531 of last week.



dropped significantly to 1419 from last week's 1681.



as measured by the percentage of enemy killed by GVN forces dropped to 80%, the lowest point since 1 May 1971.

Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

In South Vietnam, the high level of enemy activity below the DMZ in northern Quang Tri has resulted in the evacuation of an important fire support base and an increased threat to two others to the south. Heavy fighting is expected in this area (where the Communists have augmented their forces) in the days ahead, but in other parts of the country, the current low level of activity will probably continue.

In north Laos last week, little action was noted near Luang Prabang, but Bouam Long, north of the Plain of Jars, received heavy rocket and artillery attacks. On the Plain itself, Vang Pao's irregulars continue to advance northward and have occupied key high ground positions. 25X1D

25X1D [REDACTED] Combat activity throughout the rest of Laos has been at a low level. Most of the friendly troops who have been missing since the aborted attempt to retake Paksong have now returned to government control.

The Cambodian Army's decisive victory and the withdrawal of Communist forces from the area northeast of Phnom Penh have provided the Cambodians with a much needed psychological uplift. South of the capital, however, an enemy regimental size force near Srang poses a serious threat to the security of Route 3. While friendly forces on Route 4 east of the Pich Nil Pass were probed over the weekend, only light harassment of government positions has occurred throughout the rest of Cambodia.

Enemy Infiltration

The detection during the past week of three regular and three small, special purpose groups and the acceptance of one "gap fill" group raise the estimate of personnel moving toward South Vietnam/Cambodia since 1 October 1970 to some 72,600 - 74,600. As previously reported, the estimate would be increased by up to 4,000 men if the seven groups, 25X1B

25X1B [REDACTED] are confirmed as being in the system. The enemy's rainy season, infiltration plans remain obscure, but the evidence indicates that the Communists continue to exert strong efforts to counter the adverse effects of the very heavy rains in the Laos Panhandle this year.

South Vietnam Developments

President Thieu has promulgated the presidential election law, leaving intact the controversial clause requiring candidates to acquire the endorsement of 40 National Assemblymen or 100 provincial councillors. Although Thieu's major reason for including this provision probably was to enable him to win a majority mandate, it seems likely that he also hopes to preclude Vice President Ky from the race. One of Thieu's aides stated flatly that Ky would not be "allowed" to run and that as a result of "mild pressure" being applied by the administration, over 300 of the 554 local councillors had already endorsed Thieu. While Ky's aides acknowledge that they are having difficulty lining up support in the face of government intimidation, they remain confident that Ky, with the cooperation of Big Minh, will finally acquire the necessary 100 signatures of provincial councillors. Big Minh, meanwhile, states that he has already obtained more than the required 40 Assembly signatures.

Communist Developments

So far, the return to Paris of Politburo member Le Duc Tho, in his capacity as special adviser to the DRV delegation, does not seem to indicate that a major negotiating move by Hanoi is imminent. His arrival statement and remarks to correspondents were largely repetitions of standard DRV themes and positions. Nonetheless, the speculation exists that with Tho's return some new variant in Hanoi's prisoner-withdrawal formulation might conceivably emerge in the future.

~~Top Secret~~